AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

1.   Please amend the paragraph beginning on page one, line five, as follows:

This application claims priority to U.S. Provisional Patent Application No.

[[_____]] 60/489,148 ~~(Attorney Docket No. MAILP009+)~~ entitled LEVERAGED

STATISTICAL FILTERS FOR DETECTING SPAM filed July 22, 2003 which is

incorporated herein by reference for all purposes.

2.   Please insert the following new paragraphs on page three, between lines

six and seven:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

According to an exemplary embodiment, a method for improving a statistical

message classifier includes testing a message with a machine classifier. The machine

classifier may be capable of making a classification of the message. In the event that the

machine classifier makes the classification, the method includes updating the statistical

message classifier according to the classification made by the machine classifier. The

statistical message classifier may be configured to detect an unsolicited message and

includes a knowledge base that tracks the spam probability of features in classified

messages.

According to another exemplary embodiment, a method for improving a

statistical message classifier includes testing a message with a first classifier. The first

classifier may be capable of making a first classification. In the event that the message is classifiable by the first classifier, the method includes updating the statistical message classifier according to the first classification. In the event that the first classifier does not make the classification, the method includes testing the message with a second classifier. The second classifier may be capable of making a second classification. In the event that the second classifier makes the classification, the method includes updating the statistical message classifier according to the second classification. The statistical message classifier may be configured to detect an unsolicited message and includes a knowledge base that tracks the spam probability of features in classified messages.

According to another exemplary embodiment, a system for classifying a message includes a statistical message classifier configured to detect an unsolicited message and includes a knowledge base that tracks the spam probability of features in classified messages. The system also includes a machine classifier coupled to the statistical message classifier. The message classifier is configured to test the message. The machine classifier may be capable of making a reliable classification. In the event the machine classifier makes the classification, the statistical message classifier is updated according to the reliable classification made by the machine classifier.

According yet another exemplary embodiment, a system for improving a statistical message classifier includes a first classifier configured to test the message, reliably make a first classification, and update the statistical message classifier according to the first classification in the event that the first classifier makes the classification. The statistical message classifier is configured to detect an unsolicited message and includes

PA3628US

a knowledge base that tracks the spam probability of features in classified messages. The system also includes a second classifier coupled to the first classifier and that is capable of reliably making a second classification. The second classifier is also configured to further test the message in the event that the message is not classifiable by the first classifier.

Some embodiments include a computer readable medium having embodied thereon a program, the program being executable by a processor to perform a method for improving a statistical message classifier. The method includes testing a message with a machine classifier. The machine classifier may be capable of making a reliable classification. In the event the machine classifier makes the classification, the method includes updating the statistical message classifier according to the reliable classification made by the machine classifier. The statistical message classifier may be configured to detect an unsolicited message and includes a knowledge base that tracks the spam probability of features in classified messages.

Other embodiments include a computer readable medium having embodied thereon a program, the program being executable to perform a method for improving a statistical message classifier. The method includes testing a message with a first classifier. The first classifier may be capable of reliably making a first classification. In the event that the first classifier makes the classification, the method includes updating the statistical message classifier according to the first classification. The statistical message classifier may be configured to detect an unsolicited message and includes a knowledge base that tracks the spam probability of features in classified messages. In

PA3628US

the event that the first classifier does not make the classification, the method includes

testing the message with a second classifier. The second classifier may be capable of

reliably making a second classification. In the event that the second classifier makes the

classification, the method includes updating the statistical message classifier according

to the second classification.